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AUTHORIZING CONTINUED FUNDING FOR THE HOTELS TO HOUSING INITATIVE DCDHS – HAA DIVISION

2023 RES-085

This project is funded with the County's allocation of local aid authorized in the 2021 American Rescue Plan. Therefore, this resolution follows the format outlined in 2021 RES-013.

Authorizing Law: In March of 2021, the federal government authorized the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan (ARP) stimulus bill authorizing additional funding to respond to and recover from 13 the COVID-19 pandemic across multiple areas of need.

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15 Dane County was allocated over \$106 million in ARP local aid. A portion of those funds have 16 been committed to various efforts to prevent and end homelessness and limit spread of COVID-

17 19 through efforts to provide social distancing in the congregate shelter system. Over \$8.2 18 million in ARP funding was approved for the Hotels to Housing rehousing initiative for use in

- 19 2022 in the 2022 Dane County Budget.
- 20

21 Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic: Preventing exposure to and spread of COVID-19 among 22 households experiencing homelessness was a pillar of Dane County's pandemic response. 23 Beginning in March of 2020, Dane County funded non-congregate hotel shelter operations and 24 assisted with other congregate shelter expansions to quickly create critical social distancing in 25 the community's homeless shelter system, partnering with numerous hotels to provide rooms, 26 and with the City of Madison, Public Health Madison-Dane County, and frontline agencies to 27 administer the program.

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29 In May of 2021, Dane County authorized the first phase of a historic effort to provide housing

30 search, rental assistance, and case management services to people experiencing

31 homelessness who are currently served by non-congregate shelter funded by Dane County. 32 Referred to as Hotels to Housing, the program assists eligible households with up to two years

- 33 of rental assistance and case management.
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35 Following the results of a request for proposals (RFP) process and approval by the Dane 36 County Board, the Dane County Department of Human Services - Housing Access and 37 Affordability Division (HAA) currently contracts with Lutheran Social Services of Upper Michigan 38 and Wisconsin, Inc., The Salvation Army of Dane County, and Equitable Social Solutions, LCC

39 to provide housing search and case management services through the Hotels to Housing

- 40 initiative.
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42 To date, 260 households have transitioned out of the previously County-funded vulnerable

- 43 population hotel shelter, family shelter waitlist, and from the local Continuum of Care
- 44 (CoC)/Homeless Services Consortium (HSC) coordinated entry by-name list into housing since 45 the program began.
- 46

47 Rollover funding from the 2022 Hotels to Housing budget allocation of \$8.2 million has been

- 48 used to fund the program in 2023. A resolution is needed to transfer \$531,453 in additional
- 49 funding to cover projected program costs for the remainder of 2023.
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51 Duplication of Funding/Existing Partnerships and Programs: The funding is cooperative 52 with other housing programs, as additional housing resources are necessary to meet the local 53 need. 54 Expected Outcomes and Data Collection: Expected outcomes for the program reflect the 55 local Rapid Re-Housing outcome standards set by the Homeless Services Consortium (HSC) 56 Dane County/Madison Continuum of Care (CoC) including: 1. Work with clients to identify and 57 obtain permanent housing, assist with move-in and rental expenses, and provide case 58 management services to maintain housing stability during and after exiting the program, 2.85% 59 of program participants enrolled in the program should exit to permanent housing within two 60 years, 3. No more than 5% of households will return to homelessness within the first year of 61 program exit. 62 Data collected will minimally include the total number of households served, demographics of

- 63 program participants, the number of individuals who obtained employment and/or increased 64 income during their time in the program, the number of individuals who established connection 65 to non-emergency medical care or behavioral health supports and increased access to non-
- 66 cash benefits, and the average length of time clients were housed in the program.
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NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following revenue and expenditure accounts
be adjusted in the amounts presented below to provide required funding through the current
fiscal year:

72	Revenue		
73	Account Number	Account Title	<u>Amount</u>
74	80000 81367	ARP Revenue	\$531,453
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76	Expenditure		
77	Account Number	Account Title	<u>Amount</u>
78	80000 30024	ARP Rehousing Initiative	\$531,453
79			
80	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Board requests quarterly reports be shared with		
81	the members of the County Board, and that the Health and Human Needs Committee review		
82	the reports on a quarterly basis and discuss how the information presented addresses		

- 83 anticipated program outcomes.
- 85 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that unspent funds from 2023 be carried forward for expenditure in 2024.